43 11. (Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that the element is provided at an angle with the horizontal, preferably at an angle between 2 - 45°, more preferably between 5 - 30° such that the particles are transported

REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is made to present alternative definitions of the invention. No new matter is added. Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/15/02

J. Rodman Steele, Jr.
Registration No. 25,931
Akerman, Senterfitt & Eidson, P.A.
222 Lakeview Avenue, 4th Floor
Post Office Box 3188
West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3188
Telephone: (561) 653-5000

Docket No. 6900-14

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: REM et al.

Application No. Examiner:

Filed: (Herewith) Group Art Unit:

International Application No. PCT/NL00/00659

For: METHOD OF SEPARATING PARTICLES IN A FLUID MEDIUM AND AN APPARATUS THEREFOR

ATTACHMENT TO PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT SHOWING MODIFICATIONS

Box Patent Applications
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.121, the amendments made to the application are as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

4. (Amended) Method according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the fluid medium is an aqueous medium.

6. (Amended) Method according to claim 4 [or 5], characterized in that the aqueous medium has a temperature of about 0°C.

7. (Amended) Method according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that separate discharge-facilitating particles are present in the fluid medium.

9. (Amended) Method according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the barrier for restraining the particles is an element provided in

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the separation chamber.

10. (Amended) Method according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the element for restraining the particles comprises passages for the passage of the fluid medium.

11. (Amended) Method according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the element is provided at an angle with the horizontal, preferably at an angle between 2 - 45°, more preferably between 5 - 30° such that the particles are transported

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/15/02

J. Rodman Steele, Jr.
Registration No. 25,931
Akerman, Senterfitt & Eidson, P.A.
222 Lakeview Avenue, 4th Floor
Post Office Box 3188
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